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result is a renewed conviction that *D. Smithii* is a very distinct species and that *Diplothyra* possesses in its umbonal plates a good generic character.

Note on Penicillinæ.

In a review of my work on *Pholadacea*, published in the American Journal of Science, Prof. Gill suggests that *Penicillinæ* be elevated into a family, distinct from *Gastrochænidæ*, on account of the development of tentacles on the mantle-margin of the animal of the former. I have reviewed the subject and find no reason to alter the conclusions to which I originally arrived, namely, to regard this difference in the animal, in connection with differences in the shell, as possessing the value of a subfamily. Indeed, Prof. Gill has himself separated, as a subfamily only, (*Ceriphasinæ*) our American *Melanians*, which differ from the exotic species in having a mantle with a plain instead of fringed or tentaculate margin.

Descriptions of two new Species of Fresh Water Mollusca, from Panama.

BY GEO. W. TRYON, JR.

1. **Planorbis Fieldii**, Tryon, plate 1, fig. 4, 5.

Description.—Shell small, moderately thick, polished, unmarked except by growth lines. Whorls three, almost equally convex above and below, and rapidly enlarging. Spire not much depressed, umbilical region of moderate width and not deep. Outer lip regularly rounded and almost equally expanded above and below the plane of the volutions. The aperture is slightly oblique.

Dimensions.—Diam. maj. 6, min. 4½ millim. Alt. 2½ millim.

Hab.—Panama. Capt. Field, U. S. N. Coll. A. N. S.; my coll.

Observations.—This species resembles some varieties of *Pl. deflectus*, Say, in which the whorl is not deflected at the aperture; but it differs in the sides being regularly rounded instead of carinate, as in that species, and also in the dilation of the aperture above and below the plane of the shell, in this respect resembling somewhat *Pl. corpulentus*, Say.

Pl. Panamensis, Dunker, is a very different shell from *Fieldii*, being more depressed, differently sculptured, etc.

Capt. Field presented to the Academy about a dozen specimens of this species, together with a new *Amnicola* (herein described,) and a few specimens of *Succinea recisa*, Morelet, all collected by himself at Panama.

2. **Amnicola Panamensis**, Tryon, plate 1, f. 6

Description.—Shell conical, smooth and shining, consisting of four rapidly increasing, very convex whorls. Sutures deeply impressed; spire prominent, apex acute. Aperture rounded; umbilical region slightly perforate.

Dimensions.—Length 4½ millim. Diameter 3 millim.

Hab.—Panama. Capt. Field, U. S. N.; coll. A. N. S.

Observations.—This shell is very like *A. decisa*, Hald., in form, but the whorls are more convex and the aperture nearly rotund. It also resembles *A. Cincinnatiensis*, Anth., which is, however, a more slender species. The shell is smaller than either of the above.

I think this is the first species of Amnicola found upon the Isthmus.

Description of a new Exotic Melania.

BY GEORGE W. TRYON, JR.

Melania Helenæ, Tryon, t. 1, f. 7.

Desccription.—Shell turrited, whorls eight or nine, angulated in the middle, rather flattened above, convex below, sutures deeply impressed. Surface spirally nodulously ridged, the nodules running into waved longitudinal ribs. Aperture narrow, a little produced in front, contracted behind. Outer lip sinuous, angulated in the middle.

Dimensions.—Length 20 mill. Diam. 8 mill.

Hab.—Philippine Islands. My cabinet.

Observations.—This shell is allied to *Melania perfecta*, Mousson, from Java, but differs in being angulated, and in having a longer, narrower aperture; it is also a little smaller and the apicial whorls are sculptured, not smooth. Since the above description was written, I have observed in the collection at the Academy fine specimens of *Melania Mauiensis*, Lea, the sculpturing of which somewhat resembles this species, but they are much stouter, more obtuse shells, with the periphery not angulated.

Descriptions of new Species of Fresh Water Mollusca, belonging to the Families AMNICOLIDÆ, VALVATIDÆ and LIMNÆIDÆ; inhabiting California.

BY GEO. W. TRYON, JR.

The following species of Shells sent to me by my friend Mr. Wm. M. Gabb, were principally collected by Rev. J. Rowell, of San Francisco,—a gentleman who has devoted much time to the study of the Mollusca of the State of California.

It is not without considerable hesitation that I propose new species in genera wherein the variations of form, due to climatal and other influences, are so great, and where the geographical distribution is frequently so extended; and it is only after very extensive comparisons with the related species which have already been characterized, that I select for description those among the suite sent to me which appear to be most distinct, leaving others unnamed, until a more extended exploration of the State shall give us a more perfect knowledge of the extent and relations of the Molluscous fauna inhabiting its waters.

A considerable number of shells belonging to the above families, appear to inhabit the entire breadth of the continent; adding to these the forms ascertained to be peculiar to Oregon and California, we find already decided indications that these States form the metropolis of the fresh-water Pulmonobranchiates of North America.

I have added to the descriptions of new species, a list of those already described, which have been sent to me by Mr. Gabb, because, in most cases, the localities are new and interesting.

AMNICOLIDÆ, Tryon.

1. AMNICOLA ROWELLII, Tryon, t. 1, f. 8, 9.

Description.—Shell depressed, wider than high, consisting of three and a half whorls, which are regularly convex and rapidly enlarging; spire small, but little elevated, apex acute, sutures well marked; base convex, except that the region surrounding the umbilicus is flattened and inclining towards the axis, its outer boundary, consequently, is marked by an angle; umbilicus small but very distinct; aperture half ovate, the labrum well rounded and thin, the labium but slightly rounded, thickened, elevated from the body-whorl, forming an acute angle with the labrum above, and not impinging on the umbilicus. Surface marked with close, regular, minute striæ, which become enlarged in the flattened umbilical region into sharp crowded lines visible without a glass.

Color light horn or yellowish, operculum darker. Operculum paucispiral, the lines of accretion very distinct and regular.

Dimensions.—Length 2·5 mill. Diam. maj. 4. mill., min. 3 mill. Length of apert. 2 mill., breadth 1½ mill.

Hab.—Clear Lake, California. Rev. J. Rowell. My cabinet and cabinet of Mr. Rowell.